

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WHITE HOUSE

INFO USDEL SAN CLEMENTE IMMEDIATE

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EXDIS TOSEC 47

WHITE HOUSE PASS SECRETARY ROGERS IN SAN CLEMENTE

THE OPERATIONS CENTER IS REPEATING THE SUMMARY AND " ACTION REQUESTED" PARAGRAPH FROM A LENGTHY IMMEDIATE NIACT CABLE FROM AMBASSADOR DAVIS IN SANTIAGO DEALING WITH THE US-CHILEAN BILATERAL TALKS ON COMPENSATION.

FOLLOWING IS A REPEAT OF ONLY PARAS 1-3 (THE SUMMARY) AND PARA 14 OF SANTIAGO 1341, SENT ACTION SECSTATE MAR 31 .

QUOTE

1. SUMMARY. AMBASSADOR LETELIER EXPRESSED TO ME DEEP DISCOURAGEMENT OVER THE OUTCOME OF THE TALKS. HE SAID IT WAS HIS IMPRESSION THAT USG HAS CLEARLY REJECTED USE OF THE 1914 TREATY MECHANISM AND IS ASKING FOR A GOC COMMITMENT TO A CONSTITUTIONAL ADMENDMENT. HE SAID HE THOUGH OUR REITERATION OF THE DEMAND FOR DIRECT TALKS WITH THE COMPANIES WAS A RETROGRESSION. LETELIER SAID HE ALSO BROUGHT

AWAY IMPRESSION THAT WE HAD TERMINATED NEGOTIATION. HE DESCRIBED REACTION IN GOC AS STRONG, AND SAID THAT OTHER MEMBERS OF THE CHILEAN DELEGATION THOUGHT WE HAD ENGAGED IN " THREATS"-- A VIEW HE DID NOT SHARE. BUT ACCORDING TO LETELIER HIS COLLEAGUES
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AND MUCH OF GOC BELIEVE THERE HAS BEEN A REVERSAL IN OUR POLICY. HE THOUGH INOSTROZA' S PROBLEM IN RENEGOTIATION FMS DEBTS TENDED TO CONFIRM THIS CONCLUSION WITHIN GOC.

2. I TOLD LETELIER IT WAS NOT MY UNDERSTANDING THAT WE HAD REJECTED CONSIDERATION OF THE 1914 TREATY. WE COULD NOT VERY WELL BE EXPECTED TO HAVE A FIRM POSITION WHEN IT BECAME CLEAR ONLY A FEW DAYS BEFORE THE TALKS THAT THE CHILEAN REFERENCE TO THIS MECHANISM WAS MEANT TO BE A FORMAL PROPOSAL. NEITHER DID I BELIEVE THAT WE MEANT TO RUPTURE TALKS OR THAT OUR POLICY HAS BEEN REVERSED. RATHER, WE WERE TRYING TO PROBE WHAT THE CHILEANS MEANT BY THEIR PROPOSAL AND WHERE IT WOULD LEAD IN TERMS OF REAL SOLUTIONS. REFERRING TO THE REACTIONS IN THE GOC AND TO THE ACCOUNTS BROUGHT BACK BY THE OTHER DELEGATES, LETELIER SAID IT WOULD BE IMPORTANT FOR ME TO CLARIFY OUR POSITION TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER BEFORE HE DEPARTS FOR OASGA ON MONDAY.

3. ACTION REQUESTED - I WOULD APPRECIATE AUTHORIZATION BEFORE MONDAY MORNING IF POSSIBLE TO MAKE POINTS OUTLINED IN PARAGRAPH 14 TO ALMEYDA. I WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE A STATUS REPORT ON THE FMS TALKS. END SUMMARY.

14. ACTION REQUEST- BEFORE MONDAY MORNING IF POSSIBLE, I WOULD APPRECIATE AUTHORIZATION TO ADVISE ALMEYDA OF THE FOLLOWING:

A) THE U. S. POSITION IS NOT ONE OF REJECTING THE 1914 TREATY - THOUGH WE HAVE SERIOUS RESERVATIONS ABOUT ITS ADEQUACY; B) THE U. S. HAS NOT PUT FORWARD AN ENABLING CHILEAN CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT AS A UNIQUE OR INVARIABLE DEMAND; C) THE U. S. POSITION IS NOT THAT OF A RUPTURE OR BREAKDOWN IN TALKS AT OUR BEHEST; D) U. S. POLICY AND POSITIONS HAVE NOT BEEN REVERSED, AND BASIC U. S. POLICY CONTINUES TO BE TO SEEK A RESOLUTION OF OUR DIFFERENCES AND E) WE DO MEAN TO STUDY CHILEAN POSITIONS AND PROPOSALS SERIOUSLY AND EXPRESS THE HOPE THAT THE CHILEAN GOVERNMENT WILL ALSO DO SO WITH RESPECT TO OURS. I AM HOPEFUL OF GETTING INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE MONDAY MORNING BECAUSE OF NEED TO REQUEST AND SCHEDULE APPOINTMENT AND ALSO BECAUSE ALMEYDA WILL PRESUMABLY WANT TO DISCUSS CHILE' S COURSE OF ACTION IN THE OASGA WITH ALLENDE AND PERHAPS OTHERS IN THE LIGHT OF WHAT I AM AUTHORIZED TO SAY. I WOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR A STATUS REPORT ON OUR FMS TALKS.

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